

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 03047 180512Z

12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 PPT-01 SCA-01 SY-05 /046 W

----- 059819

R 180418Z MAR 76

FM AMECONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9571G

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 3047

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: BTRA, EEWT, EFIN, VN

SUBJ: CITIBANK OFFICER INVITED TO HANOI

REF: A. STATE 53011 (NOTAL, B. HONG KONG 1209, C. 75 HONG KONG

8678 (NOTAL)

1. VEMBAR K. RANGANATHAN (INDIAN CITIZEN), SENIOR ECONOMIST OF FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK, HONG KONG, INFORMED CONGENOFF THAT, IN RESPONSE TO HIS LETTER TO DRV (SEE REF B), HE HAS RECEIVED AN INVITATION FROM THE NORTH VIETNAMESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INVITING HIM TO VISIT HANOI. HE HOPES TO TRAVEL DURING THE LAST WEEK OF MARCH VIA CANTON. RANGANATHAN SAID THAT EDWARD HARSHFIELD, WHO WILL BE TAKING OVER IN APRIL AS CITIBANK'S SENIOR OFFICIAL IN HONG KONG, ALSO HOPES TO VISIT HANOI SHORTLY AFTER RANGANATHAN'S RETURN. RANGANATHAN EXPLAINED THAT TESE VISITS ARE BEING CLOSELY HELD IN THE BANK AND REQUESTED THAT THE CONGEN KEEP THE MATTER STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

2. ACCORDING TO RANGANATHAN, BOTH A LETTER OF INVITATION AND A TELEGRAM WERE RECEIVED FROM THE NV CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON MARCH 15. THE LETTER REQUESTED RANGANATHAN TO SUPPLY A PHOTO AND BIO INFORMATION AND ALSO INDICATE WHERE HE WOULD APPLY FOR HIS DRV VISA. HE HAS PROPOSED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HONG K 03047 180512Z

CANTON WITH VIENTIANE AS AN ALTERNATE. RANGANATHAN CALLED

ON THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE SEMI-OFFICIAL DRV TRADE MISSION, NGUYEN XUAN QUANG, WHO APPEARED TO BE ALREADY INFORMED OF THE INVITATION AND COMMENTED THAT HE HOPED THIS WAS THE BEGINNING OF A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CITIBANK AND THE VIETNAMESE BANK OF FOREIGN TRADE. RANGANATHAN WAS PREVIOUSLY IN TOUCH WITH THE INDIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN HONG KONG AND THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR IN HANOI CONCERNING THIS TRIP AND BELIEVES THAT THE AMBASSADOR MAY HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN SECURING THE INVITATION.

3. CONGENOFF REMINDED RANGANATHAN THAT A TREASURY LICENSE WOULD BE REQUIRED IF CITIBANK WERE TO PAY FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE TRIP. HE REPLIED THAT HE WOULD BE THE GUEST OF THE NV CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. HE WAS ALSO REMINDED THAT HARSHFIELD, AS A U.S. CITIZEN, WOULD BE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR AN ENDORESEMNT IN HIS PASSPORT FOR TRAVEL TO THE DRV. CROSS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INVITATIONS, CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, BANKERS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HONGK03047
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760102-0080
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760348/aaaabpoj.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 53011, 76 HONG KONG 1209
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CITIBANK OFFICER INVITED TO HANOI
TAGS: BTRA, EEWT, EFIN, VN, FIRST NATINAL CITY BANK HONG KONG, (RANGANATHAN, VEMBAR K)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006